

18 The Crucial Key/Earning the Bell

Prepare with "The Trick"

Mark a dot on the left index finger with a pen or marker

It should be on the side of the 1st knuckle (not side of the nail)

Introduction to Rolling

Teach it by rote first

Play E (Thumb1) half note, roll to A half note, back to E half note

Do just this for 2-3 days - just have them concentrate on the motion

Watch that they keep the tip of their index hovering over the 1st hole

When they play A you should not be able to see the 1st hole

Words to Use

Rotate from the 1st knuckle

Press the A key with your knuckle not the side of the first finger

It must be one motion

There is not 'up' and then 'down'. The finger just moves down

Do not hop

The thumb still stays in contact with (or very near) the register key

Be sure you are still anchoring to your top teeth

Pinkies on the dots, fingers hover over the holes

'Rolling to A' Daily Exercise

1. E half note - A half note- E half note

2. D half note - A half note- D half note

3. C half note - A half note- C half note

Earning the Bell

Play C, Bb, A, G, F, E

Teach by rote now and add note names on upcoming warm-up

6th finger is critical - seal completely, push to the bottom of the hole

Keep heads and air stream up/level